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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Examiner: C. Hallacher

HIROYUKI INOUE, et al.

Group Art Unit: 2853⊾

Application No.: 08/796,519 →

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Filed: February 7, 1997 U

21 3-15-01

For: INK CONTAINER FOR INK

JET PRINTING, HOLDER FOR

THE CONTAINER, CARRIAGE

FOR THE HOLDER AND

May 9, 2001

INK JET PRINTER

Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants respectfully direct the Examiner's attention to the enclosed copy of Australian Examination Report that issued during prosecution of an Australian patent application corresponding to the above U.S. Application.

The Australian Examination Search Report is dated February 22, 2001. In view of this date, it is hereby certified under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) that the information in this Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart

foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Statement.

Both of the documents cited in the Examination Report have been cited in the Information Disclosure Statement dated March 17, 1999.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. correspondence should be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

Attorney for Applicants

Registration No.

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22 February 2001

SPRUSON & FERGUSON GPO Box 3898 SYDNEY NSW 2001

Your Ref: 311615D6

Examiner's first report on patent application no. 10004/00 by CANON KABUSHIKI KAISHA

Last proposed amendment no.

Dear Madam/Sir,

I am replying to the request for normal examination. I have examined the application and I believe that there are lawful grounds of objection to the application. These grounds of objection are:

- 1. The invention defined in at least claim 42 is not novel when compared with the following documents* which disclose all the essential features of the invention claimed:
 - 1. US 4853708 A (WALTERS MICHAEL A) 1 August 1989
 - 2. .EP 0395197 A (TEKTRONIX, INC.) 31 October 1990
- 2. There is no Notice of Entitlement on file.
- * Cited against the corresponding EP application.

You have 21 months from the date of this report to overcome all my objection(s) otherwise your application will lapse. You will need to pay a fee for any response you file after 12 months from the date of this report before I can consider that response.

Yours faithfully,

LIONEL BOPAGE

Examiner of Patents, Section A4 Telephone: (02) 6283 2153